

Thank you for your service on the Regional Transit Task Force. I am pleased to announce that on August 30, 2010 the Metropolitan King County Council passed Motion 2010-0476, extending the Regional Transit Task Force's deadline to make recommendations until the end of October. I was glad to sponsor this legislation and to vote in favor of it.

I appreciate the Task Force members, who have been hard at work since March of this year. As you know, the Task Force is charged with a great challenge: exploring King County's transit system as part of the regional transportation system and providing recommendations for the future of this system in the face of staggering transit budget shortfalls. To do this, the Task Force is looking at a myriad of factors, including land use, social equity and environmental justice, financial sustainability, geographic equity, economic development and productivity and efficiency.

The Task Force has been working under a tight timeline, and recently requested a one month extension in order to finalize its recommendations. Because the recommendations of the Task Force are extremely important and will inform conversations with the Legislature, regional policy decisions, and King County budget decisions, I agree that it is better that the recommendations be right, rather than rushed. However, though a one month extension was possible, it is critical that the Council receive recommendations by the end of October in order for the Task Force's work to be timely in influencing these conversations and decisions.

Thanks again for your service. I look forward to receiving the Task Force's recommendations at the end of October.

Sincerely,

Larry Phillips, Councilmember
Metropolitan King County Council, District Four
King County Courthouse
516 Third Avenue, Room 1200
Seattle, WA 98104-3272
206.296.1004
larry.phillips@kingcounty.gov

For more information: http://www.kingcounty.gov/phillips

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